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WAR NEWS.

There is no news of the movements of the Army of the Potomac, but it is believed that the mass of the troops have crossed the river into Virginia. Nothing is definitely known of Gen. Lee's army. The impression in Washington is that he is moving rapidly towards Culpeper and Gordonsville. On Friday a cavalry skirmish occurred on the Alexandria Railroad, resulting in the defeat of the Confederates. The Federal loss is reported at twenty-two. Some skirmishing is supposed to have taken place near Gregory's Gap, in the Bull Run Mountains, also on Friday, but nothing definite is known.

A non-commissioned officer who arrived in Washington says that on Thursday General Gregg crossed at Falling Waters and was cut off at Sheperdstown for six hours from communication with the army. Gen. Gregg, however, finally relieved himself, according to the same authority, by a gallant charge, capturing a large number of prisoners, three stand of colors and four pieces of artillery.

One of the New York papers has a letter dated Vicksburg, July 7th, giving an account of the defeat of General Johnston on the 5th by Gen. Sherman, in which it is stated that the latter captured six thousand prisoners.—This is believed to be only another version of the statement published several days ago, announcing that Gen. Johnston had been overtaken and defeated, with a loss of two thousand prisoners. A Richmond paper of the 18th says that there had been some heavy skirmishing near Jackson, but nothing important beyond that.

A dispatch from Memphis states that Col. Hatch in the late fight at Jackson, Tenn., with the Confederates under Gen. Forrest, drove them through the town and out on the Trenton road, killing and wounding one hundred and taking one hundred prisoners. The Federal loss was only thirteen.

An arrival from New Orleans brings dates to the 12th inst. Two U. S. frigates from above Port Hudson had reached New Orleans. None of the Confederates captured at Port Hudson were paroled. There were five thousand five hundred in all surrendered.

Williamston, N. C., on the Roanoke river, was shelled by the Federal gunboats on Monday last, and the Confederate force stationed there driven away.

Gov. Boreman, at Wheeling, has received a dispatch from Parkersburg which says:—"Three hundred of Morgan's men were captured near Buffington. There is no doubt but that Morgan's whole force will be captured."

The Prussian police have taken to the seizure of scythe blades in the shops near the frontier, to prevent their exportation for Polish use.

A subscription in aid of the families of the police, military, and firemen, killed or wounded by the rioters of New York, was begun late on Friday afternoon, and in less than an hour eighteen thousand dollars were given.

There was a large Union meeting and a torchlight procession at New Orleans on the night of the 11th instant. A number of residences were illuminated.

During the operations on Morris Island, a Confederate steamer attempted to land reinforcements, but was driven off and destroyed by two Federal gunboats, the troops on board barely escaping.

Gen. Foster has arrived at Fortress Monroe, and taken command of that department, which has been annexed to that of North Carolina.—The North Carolina papers continue to discuss the question of a reconstruction of the Union. The Raleigh Standard proposes gradual emancipation.

The lower rates for foreign exchange caused in the decline in the premium for gold, induced a heavy export of specie from New York on Saturday. The British steamer City of Washington, for Liverpool, took out \$1,038,053; the Bremen steamer New York, for Bremen, \$594,787, and the Cunard steamer Corsica, for Nassau, \$83,893, making a total of \$1,716,733.

The New York aldermen and common council have resolved unanimously to pass the bill to pay the exemption fee, by raising a fund of two and a half millions of dollars, over the mayor's veto, if he should veto it.

An ice-cream vender, formerly a member of the Garibaldi Guard, a native of Parma, was killed on Capitol Hill, in Washington, last Friday night. His body was found on the pavement, near a tenement house occupied by a number of Italian families. Several persons were arrested, but on examination before the coroner no evidence could be found against them. They were, however, detained as witnesses. No clue to the murderer has been obtained.

Between four and five o'clock on Saturday morning an accident occurred on the Northern Central railway at Conowaga Falls, which resulted in the throwing of the locomotive in the stream, breaking up of five or six cars, and the killing of numbers of sheep and hogs, with which the train was loaded. About the same time an accident occurred on the Philadelphia railroad between Elkton and Wilmington, by the collision of two government freight trains. One of the trains was laden with horses of which twenty one were killed or so badly injured that they were wholly useless. Both trains of cars were more or less damaged.

We learn from New York that the ocean iron-clads Dictator and Puritan have at last assumed the shape of complete vessels, and that they surpass any craft ever built there.—The hulls are now almost finished, the sides being made with a more formidable armor than those of any other vessels.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Commercial Advertiser states that there are good grounds for the hope of a speedy resumption of an exchange of prisoners. Col. Ludlow will doubtless arrange a new cartel that will be acceptable to both sides, and which ought to continue permanent during the remainder of the war. One thing is settled, (the writer says,) and that is, that the Confederates will not hang the two Federal officers selected in the Richmond prison.

The newspapers state that it has been determined in Boston to test before the judicial tribunals the constitutionality of the enrollment act. It was stated during the riots in New York that a like purpose had been resolved upon in that city. We know nothing as regards the reliability of either statement.

The iron-clad movement up the James river, resulted in the demolition of Fort Powhatan. The Monitors Lehigh, Captain Howell, and Sangamon, Captain Nicholson, led in the attack. The only accident that happened was the bursting of the 15-inch gun of the Lehigh as a shell left the piece. No person, however, was injured. The fleet has proceeded further up the James river, but with what object is not known.

An official order from the War Department announces that hereafter a reward of ten dollars will be paid for the apprehension and delivery of a deserter.

Twelve thousand wounded soldiers have been sent from Gettysburg battle-fields, since the scene of the memorable three days' fighting, distributed among the cities of Baltimore, Wilmington, Philadelphia, and New York.—Eight car loads of wounded Confederates arrived in Baltimore on Saturday night from Gettysburg.

It is reported that Detective Chris. V. Hogan has been presented with \$10,000 by the Government, for the recovery of \$2,500,000 of certificates of indebtedness taken from the Treasury Department.

A certificate of authority to commence banking under the national banking law has been issued to Jay Cooke & Co., and others, at Washington, D. C. The capital is fixed at \$500,000.

Secretary Welles has notified the Boston Board of Trade that he has detailed five vessels for permanent service on the eastern coast during the fishing season.

Dr. Walter P. Smith, who graduated at the last commencement of the University of Maryland with the highest honors, and a young man of great promise as a surgeon, died last week of typhoid fever, after a brief sickness, at Danville, Virginia, where he had been engaged in his profession. He was the son of Professor N. R. Smith, of Baltimore.

The President has conferred upon Lieut. Col. Whipple the rank of brigadier general. Gen. Whipple has been the commander of Philadelphia for some months.